

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
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R 191430Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9673
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
RUESUP /AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 7094

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 0505

EO 11652 XGDS-1
TAGS PFOR BR
SUBJECT: FURTHER REVELATIONS BY FORMER AMBASSADOR LINCOLN GORDON

1. CARLOS CASTELLO BRANCO, POLITICAL COLUMNIST FOR JORNAL DO BRASIL, INFORMED AMBASSADOR JANUARY 16 THAT INTERVIEW WITH FORMER US AMBASSADOR LINCOLN GORDON THAT WAS TO HAVE APPEARED IN JANUARY 19 ISSUE OF NEWS MAGAZINE VEJA HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN. ACCORDING TO CASTELLO, GORDON HAD REFERRED IN INTERVIEW TO US GOVERNMENT HAVING PASSED \$24,000 TO BRAZILIAN POLITICAL ORGANIZATION IBAD (BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION) IN CONNECTION WITH 1962 CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS. CASTELLO WAS UNABLE TO SAY WHETHER VEJA HAD WITHDRAWN GORDON INTERVIEW VOLUNTARILY OR UNDER DURESS.

2. CASTELLO CONSIDERED GORDON CLAIMS INTERESTING IN THAT THE SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR IBAD AND ITS PARENT ORGANIZATION, "PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRATIC ACTION," HAD ALWAYS BEEN A MATTER OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN BRAZIL. HE COMMENTED THAT \$24,000 WOULD HAVE REPRESENTED ONLY A RELATIVELY SMALL PORTION OF THE TOTAL FUNDS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED BY IBAD AND OTHER GROUPS.

3. CASTELLO ALSO NOTED THAT BEFORE HE LEARNED OF THE
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REMOVAL OF THE GORDON INTERVIEW, HE HAD ALREADY WRITTEN A COMMENTARY BASED ON IT FOR WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN HIS JANUARY 17 COLUMN. WHILE COMMENTARY DID NOT APPEAR MONDAY, TODAY'S CASTELLO COLUMN (JANUARY 18) DEALS AGAIN WITH THE THEME OF THE CONTINUING REPERCUSSIONS IN BRAZIL OF THE RELEASE OF CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS FROM THE LYNDON B. JOHNSON LIBRARY AND RAISES QUESTION OF US FUNDING. CASTELLO NOTES THAT THE

1964 REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD HIGHLIGHTED IN THE JOHNSON LIBRARY DOCUMENTS REALLY BEGAN IN 1961 WITH THE RESIGNATION OF QUADROS. HE STATES THAT "MANY THINGS OCCURRED BEGINNING THEN, INCLUDING AN ATTEMPT AT MASSIVE FINANCING OF THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN OF 1962, WHEN AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO USE RESOURCES OF UNIDENTIFIED ORIGIN TO ELECT A NUMEROUS ANTI-COMMUNIST PARLIAMENTARY BLOCK WHILE THWARTING THE ELECTION OF LEFT-WING CANDIDATES FOR STATE GOVERNORSHIPS." HIS COLUMN CONTINUES BY STATING THAT THE APPARENT SPONSORSHIP OF THIS INJECTION OF RESOURCES, MANIPULATED BY AN ORGANIZATION CALLED IBAD, WAS "DEMOCRATIC PARLIAMENTARY ACTION LED BY JUAN MENDES, WHICH HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF CHOOSING THE CANDIDATES OF ITS CONFIDENCE."

4. CASTELLO BRANCO CONCLUDES COLUMN BY STATING THAT AMBASSADOR GORDON COULD PERHAPS MAKE DISCLOSURES ABOUT SUCH A MATTER, SINCE AT THE TIME THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING THE COLLECTION OF FUNDS FROM AMERICAN FIRMS FOR ELECTORAL FINANCING WAS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM. "THIS VERSION DOES NOT SEEM TRUE", CASTELLO COMMENTS, " BUT PROFESSOR GORDON MUST BE AWARE OF FACTS AND VERSIONS THAT ARE MORE CONVINCING ON A MATTER INVOLVING FINANCIAL RESOURCES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF \$20,000 TO \$30,000." WHILE CASTELLO CONCLUDES THAT GORDON WILL NOT WANT TO TALK FOR THE TIME BEING, HE BELIEVES THAT THE SHORTER WAITING PERIOD FOR THE RELEASE OF CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR THE PRESENT GENERATION OF HISTORIANS TO HELP CLARIFY SOME OF THE FACTS THAT HAD SPECIAL INFLUENCE AT THAT TIME. FOR CASTELLO THE QUESTION IS TO LEARN WHERE THESE DOCUMENTS MAY BE FOUND AND TO BE ALERT TO THEIR RELEASE.

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5. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO GET IN TOUCH WITH AMBASSADOR GORDON TO FIND OUT WHAT HE ACTUALLY SAID TO VEJA INTERVIEWER.
CRIMMINS

NOTE BY OC/T: DISSEMINATION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O - MR. OTTO.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
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Copy: SINGLE
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, BR, (GORDON, LINCOLN)
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Review Markings:
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